Dan Brand and Tipi

FRANK FRAZETTA

EVIL HITS A NEW HIGH IN THIS GRIPPING TALE OF THE BATTLE FOR LIFE IN THE BACKWOODS! A NEW DANGER—MORE SINISTER, MORE ELUSIVE AND MORE TERROR-PACKED THAN EVER BEFORE—THREATENS TO ENGULF DAN BRAND AND TIPI. AND WHEN THE DANGER STRIKES, TIPI IS **LOST TO THE LAND OF THE LIVING**—AND EVEN DAN ALMOST SUCCUMBS TO THE DREADED

"Sleep of Death"

IN THE MOHAWK WIGWAM OF CHIEF RED FOOT...

WEBCOMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

THEN YOUR MEDICINE IS WRONG! I, RED FOOT, HAVE SWORN TO MY BLOOD BROTHER, DAN BRAND, THAT NEVER WILL I WAR UPON THE WHITE SETTLERS! A MOHAWK DOES NOT GO BACK ON HIS WORD! A MOHAWK REVERES FRIENDSHIP UNTIL DEATH!

AS LONG AS DAN BRAND LIVES THERE WILL BE PEACE! I HAVE SWORN IT! TAKE YOUR FOOLISH MEDICINE ELSEWHERE, SAGAMAW!

AS LONG AS DAN BRAND LIVES, EH? QUICKLY, BRING ME MY BONES, MY HERBS, MY MANY-COLORED POWDERS! IT IS CLEAR THAT DAN BRAND MUST DIE!

THIS SHALL BE THE MEDICINE THAT WILL DO AWAY WITH DAN BRAND, CARRY DEATH TO THE WHITE INVADERS, AND BRING ME GREAT REWARDS FROM THE BRITISH GENERALS FOR MY SERVICES!

LATER — IN A SETTLER HOME DOWN IN THE VALLEY...
I'M GLAD TO REPORT, DAN, THAT THE PEOPLE AROUND HERE ARE SOLIDLY BEHIND THE COLONIAL ARMY. WE'LL BACK YOU ALL THE WAY!
THAT'S WONDERFUL, SI. AND IF THEY FIGHT AS WELL AS THEY MAKE THIS CIDER, I'LL BE WELL SATISFIED!
THANKS, DAN— HAVE MORE OF THAT CIDER. YOU, TOO, TIPI!
I'VE NEVER TASTED CIDER, MR. SAMSON — I THINK I'LL TAKE A SIP OF DAN'S TO SEE IF I LIKE IT...
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TIPI! TIPI! WHAT'S THE MATTER?
I—I DON'T—KNOW—I—I—AH...

TIPI! SPEAK TO ME! TIPI! HE'S—HE'S—DEAD!
WAIT A MINUTE, DAN—YOU'RE ALL EXCITED! LET ME TAKE A LOOK AT HIM...

AH, I THOUGHT SO! THE MINUTE I SNIFFED THIS GLASS. I'VE SEEN THIS BEFORE, DAN, WHEN I LIVED AMONG THE MOHAWKS. TIPI ISN'T DEAD—BUT HE MIGHT JUST AS WELL BE!

THIS IS "THE SLEEP OF DEATH!" IT'S A STRANGE KIND OF COMA BROUGHT ON BY DRINKING A POTION THAT ONLY A FEW MOHAWK MEDICINE MEN KNOW HOW TO PREPARE. SOME OF IT WAS POURED INTO THAT GLASS OF CIDER!

THOSE ARE TRACKS, SI! INDIAN TRACKS!
THERE'S A CURE, DAN—BUT EVEN FEWER MOHAWK MEDICINE MEN KNOW IT. UNLESS YOU GET THAT CURE IN TIME, TIPI MAY DIE OF STARVATION WHILE IN HIS COMA!

I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY ANY MOHAWK WOULD WANT TO DO THIS TO ME, SI! BECAUSE THIS POISON WAS MEANT FOR ME! I'M GOING TO TAKE SOME OF IT ALONG...

IF THE MOHAWKS KNOW THE CURE—THEN TO THE MOHAWK CAMP I GO! I'LL SAVE YOU, TIPI! I'LL SAVE YOU—OR PERISH!

THE LONG TREK TO THE MOHAWK CAMP TAKES ALL NIGHT. AT MORNING, IN THE WIGWAM OF CHIEF RED FOOT...
YES, DAN BRAND— THIS IS TRULY THE DREAD SLEEP OF DEATH, FROM WHICH SO FEW RETURN. I WILL SEND FOR SAGAMAW, MY OWN MEDICINE MAN...PERHAPS HE KNOWS THE CURE!

WHAT? OUR LITTLE BROTHER TIPI? HOW TERRIBLE! WHAT EVIL RENEGADE OF A MOHAWK COULD HAVE DONE THIS?
SOMETHING HAS GONE WRONG... I MUST PLAY MY GAME CLEVERLY...!

I DO NOT KNOW A CURE FOR THIS, DAN BRAND. BUT THERE IS A MEDICINE MAN IN ANOTHER MOHAWK TRIBE WHO DOES. IT IS A FULL DAY'S JOURNEY BY MOUNTAIN TRAILS...

THEN LEAD ME TO HIM—NOW!

MAY THE GOOD SPIRITS ATTEND YOUR FOOTSTEPS, BROTHER DAN BRAND.

LATER—ON THE TRAIL...
WE MUST WAIT FOR SAGAMAW'S SIGNAL...

THAT SUDDEN SHADOW...

THUNDER! THAT DAN BRAND HAS THE MANY LIVES OF A CAT! I WILL HAVE TO TRY ANOTHER WAY...!

WHAT A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT! ARE YOU BOTH SAFE?
LEAD ON, SAGAMAW —LEAD ON! IT IS A PITY THERE IS NOT THE TIME TO INVESTIGATE THIS "ACCIDENT"...!

I'M BEGINNING TO GET A STRANGE FEELING ABOUT THIS MEDICINE MAN GUIDE OF MINE... HAVE TO WATCH HIM EXTRA CLOSELY... AH, WHAT'S HE TRYING TO HIDE FROM ME? CAN THAT BE A SIGNAL?

IT IS!

TWANNNG!

QUICK—INTO THIS CAVE!
I KNOW THAT CAVE MUST BE A TRAP—BUT I'VE GOT TO GET TIPI UNDER COVER—AND I NEED TIME TO PLAN AND THINK!

THIS CAVE IS SMALL PROTECTION, SAGAMAW. ANYONE TRYING TO GO OUT OF THAT SMALL UNCONCEALED ENTRANCE WILL BE A PERFECT TARGET FOR THOSE WHO WAIT IN AMBUSH.
TRUE! VERY TRUE! COMING IN HERE WAS A MISTAKE.

THEN LET US QUENCH OUR THIRST BEFORE WE SIT DOWN TO PLAN ESCAPE. MY WATER IS FRESH, SAGAMAW.

A STRANGE TASTE, IS IT NOT, SAGAMAW? IN THAT FLASK IS THE SAME POTION THAT SENT TIPI INTO THE SLEEP OF DEATH!
NO! NO! NO!

I CONFESS! IT WAS I WHO POISONED HIM, WHO CONCOCTED THIS POTION. IT WAS YOU I TRIED TO KILL—THE BRITISH MADE ME DO IT! SAVE ME! FORGIVE ME! SAVE ME—I'LL TELL YOU THE CURE...!

THE CURE—IT IS A STRONG BROTH MADE FROM BIRCH BARK! USE IT ON ME... SAVE ME...PLEASE... PLEASE... AHHHHH...

BROTH MADE FROM BIRCH BARK! I MUST RUN THAT GAUNTLET OF ARROWS WAITING FOR ME OUTSIDE!

NOW! NOW—WHILE THEY RELOAD THEIR BOWS!

AAAA A-A-A!

DIE, DOG OF A WHITE MAN!
UGH... MY KNIFE...!

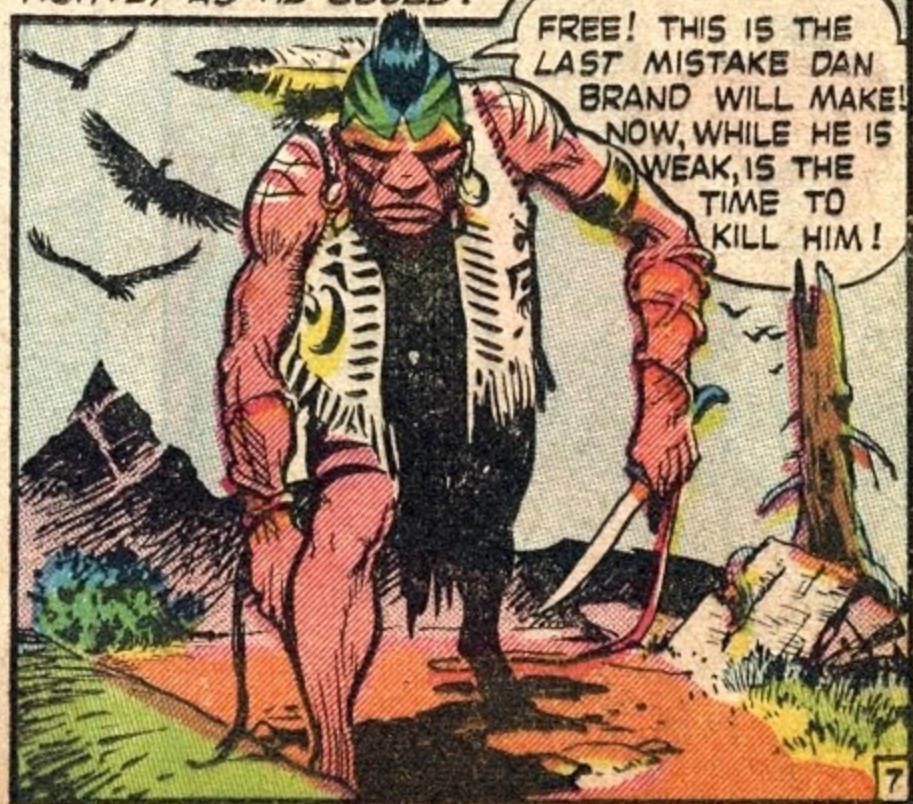
IF I DIE— YOU DIE WITH ME!
AH— AGHHHHH...!

GOT TO PULL OUT THIS ARROW— UGH! MUST TIE UP THESE ASSASSINS— MUST GET THAT BIRCH BARK...

I'M...GETTING WEAK. BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO TAKE CARE OF ME... GOT TO GET THIS BARK TO TIPI...

DAN MUSTERS HIS TREMENDOUS WILL —STAGGERS BACK TO THE CAVE, FINDS A HOLLOW STONE...
JUST A FEW MINUTES MORE... I'VE GOT TO STAY CONSCIOUS...GOT TO LAST THIS OUT...

I'VE GOT TO FORCE THIS THROUGH HIS TEETH... MAKE IT GO DOWN... TIPI... TIPI...

BUT, IN HIS HASTE AND WEAKNESS, DAN DID NOT TIE THE BONDS OF THE ASSASSINS AS TIGHTLY AS HE COULD!
FREE! THIS IS THE LAST MISTAKE DAN BRAND WILL MAKE! NOW, WHILE HE IS WEAK, IS THE TIME TO KILL HIM!

I THINK I GOT SOME OF IT DOWN... CAN'T STAY CONSCIOUS ANY MORE... PASSING OUT... TIPI... AHHHH...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED OR WHAT THIS MEANS — BUT I DO KNOW THAT I WANT THAT KNIFE!

ALL RIGHT, YOU, WHOEVER YOU ARE — PICK UP DAN BRAND AND START CARRYING HIM TO THE NEAREST MOHAWK CAMP — FAST!

A FEW DAYS LATER...
BANISHED FROM THE VILLAGE — A FITTING PUNISHMENT FOR SAGAMAW AND HIS ASSASSINS...
WE SHOULD NOT HAVE USED THE BIRCH BARK CURE ON HIM — BUT SHOULD HAVE LET HIM PERISH. I FEAR WE HAVE NOT SEEN THE LAST OF THIS EVIL MAN...
AMONG US, IT IS SAID: "THE QUALITY OF MERCY IS NOT STRAINED." IF SAGAMAW RETURNS WITH HIS EVIL, WE WILL REA TO MEET IT!

Dan Brand and Tipi

FOOD TO SETTLE THE FATE OF A NATION! MEDICINE AND CLOTHING TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THOUSANDS OF VALIANT FIGHTERS FOR FREEDOM! —ALL HANG IN THE BALANCE! BUT DAN BRAND AND TIPI SMASH THROUGH A RING OF TREACHERY AND TERROR TO BRING THROUGH THE GOODS, GUARANTEEING THAT NOT IN VAIN WAS SHED—

"THE BLOOD OF VALLEY FORGE!"

THERE IS FREEZING AND HUNGER AT VALLEY FORGE...

DAN BRAND AND TIPI ARE SCOURING THE FRONTIER, TRYING TO ROUND UP SUPPLIES...

HEY!

YOU TRIPPED ME-ON PURPOSE!
KEEP A CIVIL TONGUE IN YOUR HEAD, YOU INJUN BRAT!

THIS WILL TEACH YOU TO OPEN YOUR MOUTH TO YOUR SUPERIORS, YOU RED SAVAGE!

OUR COLONIAL ARMY IS TEACHING ENGLAND A LESSON IN EQUALITY, HUTCHINS—BUT IT LOOKS AS THOUGH I'LL HAVE TO GIVE YOU A SPECIAL LESSON IN THAT! PUT UP YOUR FISTS!
AS I PLANNED!
I'M READY- PULL YOUR PISTOL, BRAND!

I'M NOT AFRAID OF YOUR TOY CANNONS, HUTCHINS —BUT WE'LL SETTLE THIS...

...FRONTIER STYLE!

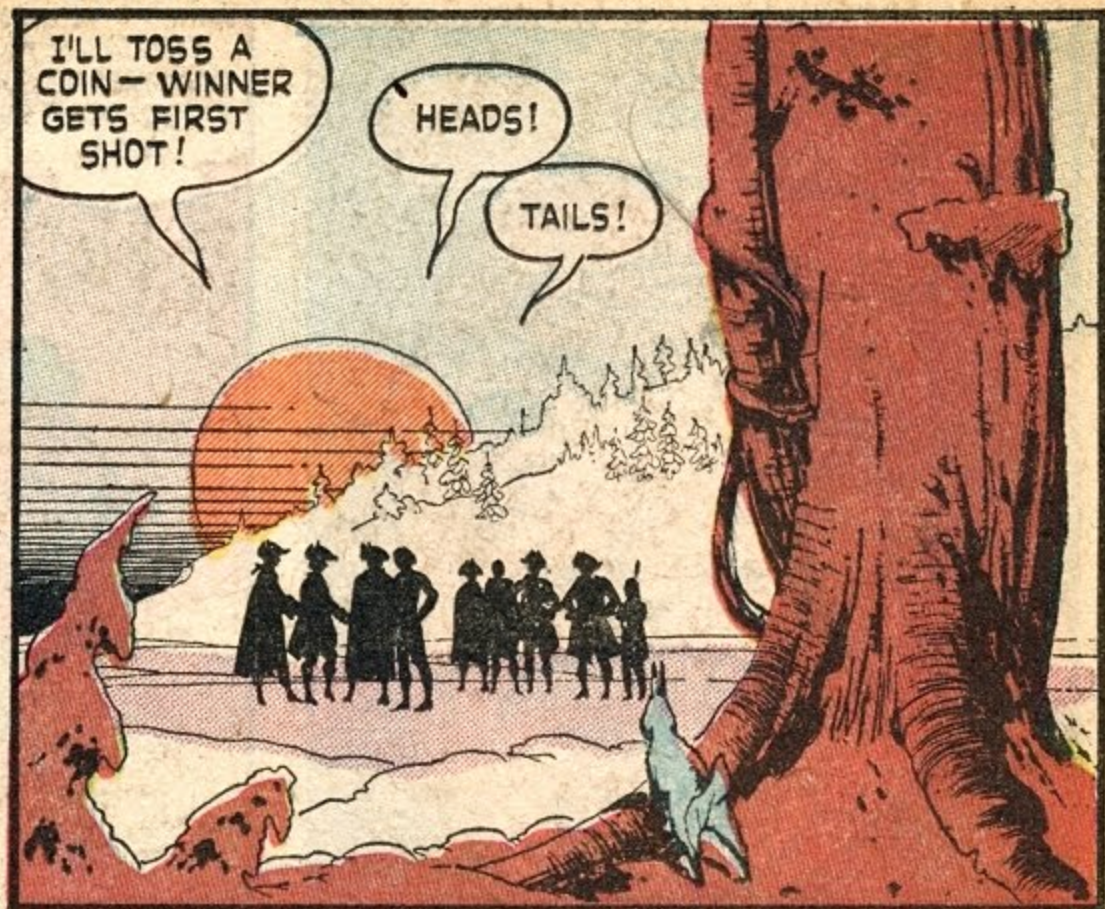
WRONG, BRAND— WE'LL SETTLE IT MY WAY! WITH PISTOLS, AT DAWN! THAT'S A CHALLENGE! I DARE YOU!

YA DASSN'T REFUSE A CHALLENGE LIKE THAT, DAN!
A DUEL! THUNDER—THIS DELAYS MY IMPORTANT MISSION! BUT I KNOW THE FRONTIERSMEN WILL HOLD OFF THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS UNTIL THEY SEE WHO WINS THIS DUEL. I'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH WITH IT!

I'LL TOSS A COIN—WINNER GETS FIRST SHOT!
HEADS!
TAILS!

HEADS!
I WIN! I GET FIRST SHOT—AND I WON'T MISS, BRAND!

PREPARE TO DIE, REBEL! I'M THE BEST PISTOL SHOT IN THIS REGION!

...18-19-20 PACES! YOU'RE TURNIN' NOW...!
AN' HUTCHINS IS LIFTIN' HIS PISTOL TO SHOOT...!

BUT HUTCHINS MAKES HIS BIG MISTAKE—HE LOOKS DEEP INTO DAN'S EYES BEFORE HE SHOOTS!
THOSE EYES! HOW THEY BURN! HOW THEY ACCUSE! AM I- GULP- A TRAITOR? I-I CAN'T KEEP THIS GUN STEADY...!

MISSED! THAT MAN'S EYES THREW ME OFF! GULP! NOW IT'S HIS TURN TO SHOOT! GULP!
ZING!

HE'S RAISING HIS GUN... POINTING IT... HE'S GOING TO SHOOT...I'M SCARED... I'M SCARED...I-I-I THINK I'M GOING TO FAINT...

DOGGONE! DAN BRAND JUST FIRED INTO THE AIR!
AN' HUTCHINS PASSED OUT — THAT COWARD! COULDN'T TAKE IT!
DAN SHOULDA SHOT 'IM — BUT I GUESS HE DONE THE SPORTIN' THING!

I DON'T BELIEVE IN KILLING IN COLD BLOOD!
THAT WAS A FINE DISPLAY OF SPORTSMANSHIP, DAN — I'M SURE THAT AFTER THAT, THE MEN OF THIS FRONTIER ARE WITH YOU ALL THE WAY!

C'MON, MEN O' TH' FRONTIER, LET'S CHIP IN FOR THE BOYS AT VALLEY FORGE — CLOTHIN' FOOD, BULLETS AN' GUNS!
YIPPEE!

A FEW DAYS LATER...
YOUR GIFTS WILL TIDE OUR ARMY THROUGH THE WINTER! THANK YOU, THANK YOU — IN THE NAME OF LIBERTY!
YE KIN DEPEND ON US T'DO OUR PART, DAN!

AND NOW, TIPI, COMES OUR BIG PROBLEM — TO GET THIS WAGON TRAIN ACROSS THE MOUNTAINS AND THROUGH THE BRITISH LINES IN THE VALLEY!

OTHER EYES WATCH THE WAGON TRAIN CLIMB THE MOUNTAIN...
WE'LL STOP THEM! SOMEHOW WE'LL STOP THEM!

THE MOUNTAIN TOP IS REACHED...
HALT!...LOOK, TIPI—DOWN THERE IN THE VALLEY...!
IT'S A BRITISH PATROL—WE'LL NEVER GET ACROSS THAT VALLEY UNLESS WE FIGHT FOR IT!

WE CAN'T FIGHT! WE DAREN'T RISK THIS PRECIOUS LOAD OF SUPPLIES. WE'LL JUST LIE LOW HERE AND HOPE THEY DON'T SPOT US—MAYBE THEY'LL GO AWAY...

BUT—
A BRITISH PATROL! WHAT LUCK! FOLLOW ME, MEN, —WE'LL RIDE DOWN THERE AND TELL THE PATROL ABOUT THIS SUPPLY TRAIN!

THUNDER! IT'S HUTCHINS AND HIS MEN—RIDING TOWARD THAT PATROL! THEY'RE GOING TO WARN THE BRITISH!
AND WE'RE HANDICAPPED —WITH THESE SLOW OXCARTS!

WE'VE GOT TO INTERCEPT THAT TRAITOR BEFORE HE REACHES THE PATROL! QUICK, TIPI—MELT DOWN A COUPLE OF CANDLES IN THAT CAMPFIRE!
ALL RIGHT, BUT I DON'T UNDER-STAND!

THESE BARREL STAVES WILL BE JUST THE THING! QUICK, TIPI—HURRY WITH THAT MELTED WAX!

THIS WAX WILL HARDEN IN A SECOND, IN THIS COLD, AND KEEP OUR MOCCASINS GLUED TO THESE STAVES!

LET'S GO! IT TOOK FIVE MINUTES TO MAKE THESE SKIS-- BUT WE'LL MAKE THAT TIME UP FAST...!

BEAR LEFT, TIPI-- WE'LL JUMP THAT HILL...!

...LIKE THIS!

AND WE'VE GOT THEM!
DAN BRAND!

DAN! THE BRITISH PATROL! THEY'VE SPOTTED US! HERE THEY COME!

WE CAN'T LET THEM FIND OUT ABOUT THE SUPPLY TRAIN! QUICK! JUMP THESE HORSES!

THEY'RE CHASING US!
JUST WHAT I WANT THEM TO DO! THEY'LL CHASE US-RIGHT OUT OF THIS VALLEY!

JUMP, TIPI!
RIGHT WITH YOU, DAN!

THEY OUGHT TO FOLLOW THE TRACKS OF THOSE HORSES FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER FIVE MILES BEFORE THEY FIND OUT THEY'RE WITHOUT RIDERS!

THE MEN AT THE WAGON TRAIN GOT THE IDEA, DAN —THEY'RE STARTING ACROSS THE VALLEY NOW!
EXCELLENT! WE'LL STAY HERE A WHILE—JUST IN CASE THOSE BRITISH COME BACK THIS WAY. WE CAN HOLD THEM OFF FOR HOURS, IF NECESSARY!

DAN! AND WITH A WAGON TRAIN OF SUPPLIES! YOU MUST HAVE BROUGHT IT RIGHT THROUGH THE BRITISH LINES!
GENERAL, I BRING YOU SUPPLIES—AND TRAITORS!

WE KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH BOTH, DAN! THIS MAY VERY WELL BE THE SAVING OF OUR COUNTRY. IN AMERICA'S NAME— I THANK YOU!
THE END.

Dan Brand and Tipi
A JUGGERNAUT ARMY OF REDCOATS AND HESSIANS SWEEPS DOWN FROM CANADA IN A POWERFUL BID TO CRUSH THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. WHO WILL WARN THE PEOPLE OF THIS NEW THREAT? WHO WILL GIVE THE CALL TO ARMS? NONE OTHER THAN DAN BRAND AND TIPI, RIDING A FRAIL CRAFT THROUGH THEIR MOST PERILOUS PASSAGE, SLITHERING THROUGH THE DREADED
"River Gauntlet!"

THE BRITISH ARMY SWEEPS DOWN FROM CANADA THROUGH THE LAKES AND RIVERS OF UPSTATE NEW YORK...
HERE'S OUR PLAN, GENTLEMEN—WE'RE MARCHING SOUTH FROM CANADA ... ...AND AT ALBANY WE WILL MEET WITH GENERAL HOWE'S FORCES, NOW MARCHING NORTH. DO YOU APPRECIATE THE-ER-SIGNIFICANCE, GENTLEMEN?
I SAY RAW-THER, GENERAL BURGOYNE, —RAW-THER!

BETWEEN US, WE SHALL *CRUSH* THE REBELS—LIKE A NUT-CRACKER—LIKE *THIS!* HEH-HEH-HEH!
REMARKABLE! BRILLIANT! WONDERBAR!

LET ME INTRODUCE ABEL BANNIS, WHO HAS AGREED TO SCOUT FOR US THROUGH THESE WILDS. MR. BANNIS IS ONE OF GENERAL WASHINGTON'S BEST SCOUTS.
USED T'BE GEN'RAL BURGOYNE! RIGHT NOW, I'M EMPLOYIN' MY TALENTS WHERE THEY GITS PAID THE MOST!

SO! BANNIS IS SCOUTING FOR THE BRITISH NOW—THE TRAITOR! I'D LIKE TO SETTLE HIS HASH RIGHT HERE AND NOW, BUT THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO GET AWAY FAST AND WARN OUR PEOPLE OF BURGOYNE'S PLAN!

ALREADY WE HAVE WASTED VALUABLE HOURS—WAITING FOR NIGHT TO CLIMB OUT OF THIS TREE...
EVERY PRECAUTION IS NECESSARY, TIPI. WE MUST NOT BE SEEN. OUR MISSION IS TO REPORT INFORMATION, NOT TO FIGHT...

BUT!
'ALT! OO GOES THERE?
BUT IF WE MUST FIGHT, WE *WILL!* HEAD STRAIGHT FOR THE RIVER, TIPI!
BLAZES, IT'S DAN BRAND! *STOP THAT MAN! STOP HIM!*

A CANOE HAS BEEN CAREFULLY HIDDEN AMONG THE REEDS...
LUCKY FOR US THERE'S NO MOON. DIG, TIPI — DIG!

ZOUNDS, THEY GOT AWAY — DOUBTLESS TO WARN THE REBELS OF OUR PLANS! I SAY WHAT ROTTEN, BLOODY LUCK!
I GOT AN IDEA, GENERAL BURGOYNE...

WITH A FEW SCORE MEN ON HORSEBACK, I'LL BE ABLE TO CUT BRAND OFF FARTHER DOWN THE RIVER BY MORNING. I KNOW WHERE TO BORROW CANOES, TOO!
EXCELLENT! SEE THAT HE DOESN'T GET PAST YOU THIS TIME!

NEXT MORNING...
IT WAS AN ALL-NIGHT RIDE DOWN TO THIS SPOT— BUT IF WE NAB DAN BRAND AN' THAT INJUN BRAT, IT WILL BE WORTH IT. THEY OUGHT TO BE ALONG SOON, IF THEY'RE TAKIN' THE RIVER TRAIL...

HERE THEY COME! SHOVE OFF!

WHAT SHALL WE DO, DAN?
ONLY ONE THING TO DO, TIPI. THEY'VE SET UP A RIVER GAUNTLET — AND WE'LL HAVE TO RUN IT! LET'S GO!

WHAT THE—! WHAT ARE THEY TRYIN' TO DO?
—NOW!

WHERE'D THEY GO, BLIMEY?
DROWNED THEMSELVES, I'LL BET—JUST COULDN'T FACE IT!

YEEOW— I CAN'T SWIM!
COME ON IN, THE WATER'S FINE!

AND NOW—BACK IN OUR CANOE AGAIN. CAREFUL, TIPI, THAT WE DON'T UPSET IT!
STOP! SURRENDER, DAN BRAND! YOU'LL NEVER MAKE IT!

OH, WON'T WE?
I'LL GET YOU, DAN BRAND— I'LL GET YOU YET!

SIT DOWN, BANNIS— YOU'RE ROCKING THE BOAT! DIG HARD, TIPI!
RIGHT, DAN! HERE WE GO —INTO THE RAPIDS!

RIGHT THROUGH THEM! THEIR LAST CANOE JUST SCRATCHED ON A ROCK!
YES, BUT LOOK AHEAD— THERE'S THE *FALLS!*

WE'VE *ONLY ONE* CHOICE, TIPI! THE SHORE IS LINED WITH BANNIS' MEN—AND WE CAN'T MAKE A PORTAGE HERE! *WE'LL HAVE TO RIDE THAT FALLS!*
ZING!
ZING!

GOOD LUCK, TIPI! DIVE DEEP!
G-G-GOOD LUCK, DAN! IF ONLY WE MISS THE ROCKS!

NARROWLY, THE ROCKS ARE MISSED! DAN AND TIPI DIVE DEEP—ARCHING BACK **UNDER** *THE CATARACTING WATER..*

MADE IT! LUCKY THIS LEDGE WAS HERE. THE FALLS WILL SCREEN US FROM SIGHT!

THEY'RE GONE TO GLORY, MATEY—NO BLOKE COULD STAY UNDER *THAT* LONG!
THEY'RE DONE FOR, ALL RIGHT! MUST'VE BEEN SMASHED TO BITS ON THE ROCKS DOWN THERE! LET'S GO, MEN!

THEY'RE GONE, ALL RIGHT! MA-LA, BUT I AM COLD!
REPAIRING THIS CANOE WILL WARM US UP. QUICKLY, STRIP SOME BIRCH BARK, GATHER PINE GUM...

...AND...
WE WILL COME BACK, TIPI -- SOON! WE WILL GIVE THE TRAITOR'S REWARD TO ABEL BANNIS -- SOON -- VERY SOON!

A WEEK LATER -- SARATOGA!
IF WHAT YOU REPORT IS TRUE, DAN BRAND, BURGOYNE AND HIS REDCOAT SWINE WILL MEET THEIR LAST AMBUSH HERE AT SARATOGA! OUR BRAVE MILITIAMEN ARE READY FOR THEM -- ALL AROUND THIS VALLEY!

HERE THEY COME -- FIRE!

-- AND ATTACK!
FOR COUNTRY AND FOR FREEDOM!

OUT OF MY WAY, REDCOATS -- I HAVE OTHER GAME!

ABEL BANNIS—YOUR TRAITOR'S PAYMENT IS DUE!
DAN BRAND! I THOUGHT—

I'M PAYING OUT DEATH, BRAND—YIIII!
THEN YOU'VE GOT THE WRONG CUSTOMER, SWINE!

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO DO BUSINESS! THIS KNIFE IS ONE!

I'D RATHER TRADE—PUNCHES!

DAN! DAN! WE'VE WON! BURGOYNE HAS JUST SURRENDERED!
THIS BATTLE WILL DECIDE THE WHOLE WAR!

AND A COURT-MARTIAL WILL DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH THAT DESERTER!
YOU SAID WE'D COME BACK FOR HIM, DAN—AND WE DID!
THE END

Dan Brand and Tipi
DAN! TIPI! COME HERE—QUICK! OUR BATTLE PLANS FOR THE SPRING OFFENSIVE —THEY'RE GONE!
AN URGENT CALL FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON —AND THE MAN-HUNT IS ON! THE FUTURE OF AN ARMY AND A NATION HANGS IN THE BALANCE FOR ONE FATEFUL DAY. BUT IT'S ALL IN A DAY'S WORK OF DANGER FOR DAN BRAND AND TIPI — WHEN THEY TAKE UP
THE TRAIL OF THE TRAITOR!

BUT WE'VE BEEN WATCHING THIS TENT, GENERAL. NO ONE'S COME IN OR OUT EXCEPT YOUR ORDERLY.
THEN LET'S GET TO HIS TENT RIGHT AWAY!

GONE! AND HE TRIED TO MAKE IT LOOK AS THOUGH HE WERE STILL HERE-ASLEEP! HE WAS A SPY ALL THE TIME!
HIS PIPE'S STILL WARM! HE LEFT RECENTLY— AND IN A HURRY!

LET'S GO, TIPI—ON THAT TRAITOR'S TRAIL! MAYBE WE CAN STILL CATCH HIM AND BRING HIM BACK!
YOU MUST, DAN-YOU MUST IF THE BRITISH EVER GET THOSE BATTLE PLANS, WE'RE LOST!

REMEMBER—I WANT THAT MAN BACK—ALIVE WE MUST FIND OUT WHO ELSE HE'S IN CONTACT WITH! GODSPEED!
GET THAT, TIPI— ALIVE! THOSE ARE OUR ORDERS!

THIS TRAIL'S STILL FRESH. WE MUST BE HARD ON HIS HEELS.
LOOK DAN— IT LEADS OFF THE ROAD!

THERE'S HIS HORSE! HE WENT ON FOOT FROM HERE.
HE WENT UP THIS MOUNTAIN, I'M SURE. IT'S TOO STEEP FOR A HORSE. COME ON, TIPI.

AT THAT MOMENT AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN...
ONCE OVER THIS MOUNTAIN AND ACROSS THE RIVER— AND I'LL BE ALL RIGHT. I DON'T THINK ANYONE'S ON MY TRAIL YET. MUST HURRY...HURRY— WAS THAT A GROWL I HEARD...?

AFTER A FEW MOMENTS THE ALERTED BEAR PEERS OUT OF HER CAVE TO SEE IF ANYONE ELSE THREATENS HER YOUNG — AND SEES...
HE WENT THIS WAY, ALL RIGHT. SEE THAT SCRAPED STONE? THAT CRUSHED LEAF? THERE'S BLOOD ON THIS BRAMBLE — HE SCRATCHED HIMSELF HERE AND...

A BEAR! SHE MUST HAVE CUBS NEARBY! DUCK, TIPI!

I'LL TAKE THE HIGH ROAD...!
AND I'LL TAKE THE LOW...!

AND NOW, TOGETHER—!
GOT HER! BUT WE'VE LOST PRECIOUS TIME!

MEANWHILE, THE SPY HAS COME QUICKLY DOWN THE OTHER SIDE OF THE MOUNTAIN AND IS ALMOST ACROSS THE RIVER...
ONCE OVER THIS BRIDGE AND I'M IN A BRITISH-OCCUPIED TERRITORY AND SAFE. LUCKY I KNEW ABOUT THIS BRIDGE...

HERE'S ONE CASE WHERE IT DOES PAY TO CUT DOWN YOUR BRIDGES BEHIND YOU—JUST IN CASE I AM BEING FOLLOWED! THE RIVER'S SWOLLEN FROM SPRING RAINS...NO ONE CAN SWIM IT!

MEANWHILE...
THAT FOOT BRIDGE WAS JUST CUT AWAY—OUR SPY MUST HAVE DONE IT! BLAZES!
THAT'S GOING TO BE A MIGHTY ROUGH RIVER TO SWIM, DAN!

BUT SWIM IT, WE MUST-STICK CLOSE TO ME, TIPI!
RIGHT WITH YOU, DAN!

THIS RIVER'S SO SWIFT WE GET PUSHED THREE FEET DOWNSTREAM, FOR EVERY INCH WE MAKE ACROSS ... MY ARMS ARE READY TO FALL OFF!
SAVE YOUR BREATH, TIPI...

WE MADE IT, DAN! FOR A WHILE THERE, I THOUGHT WE WOULDN'T!
BUT WE'RE ABOUT A MILE DOWNSTREAM FROM WHERE THE SPY CROSSED! WE LOST PRECIOUS TIME AND DISTANCE!

BLIMEY! WOT A SOFT SENTRY POST WE LANDED TODAY! NOBODY COMES BY THIS WAY—EVER! NOT EVEN A MAJOR!
STOW THE BLOODY CHATTER AN' PAY MORE ATTENTION TO THE GAME!

GRRMMMPFG!
MIND IF WE BREAK UP THIS GAME? WE HAVE USE FOR THOSE HORSES, REDCOATS—EVEN IF WE HAVE NO USE FOR YOU!

A SHORT WHILE LATER...
AH, RIGHT ON TIME! I HAVE THE BATTLE PLANS!
EXCELLENT! I BROUGHT YOU A HORSE. MOUNT QUICKLY—WE'LL RIDE TO HEADQUARTERS AND THERE YOU'LL GET YOUR MONEY.

BUT BEFORE THE SPY AND THE BRITISH OFFICER CAN RIDE MUCH FARTHER...
YOU'LL COLLECT YOUR REWARD RIGHT HERE, SPY!

HARK, TIPI—THE SOUND OF HORSES! QUICK—INTO THE BUSHES!
IT MUST BE A BRITISH PATROL!

I SAY, ISN'T THAT LIEUTENANT BUNTING LYING AT THE SIDE OF THE ROAD? STOP, MEN!
FIRST THE TWO SENTRIES DOWN THE RIVER AND NOW THE LIEUTENANT! THERE ARE COLONIALS ON THIS SIDE OF THE RIVER!

THE CAPTAIN AND I WILL TAKE CARE OF LIEUTENANT BUNTING. YOU MEN SCATTER! RIDE UP AND DOWN THE RIVER BANK—THE REBELS WILL HAVE TO CROSS IT AND WE'LL CATCH THEM THERE!

HELP! HALP! HALP! GLUB!
WHAT WAS THAT?
IN THOSE BUSHES, SIR!

WE'LL INVESTIGATE. YOU FIRST, CAPTAIN!
RIGHT, SIR. YOU FIRST, LIEUTENANT!
R-R-RIGHT, SIR!

WHY, I SAY! IT'S OUR SPY!
BUT WHERE ARE THE ONES WHO CAPTURED HIM FROM YOU?

RIGHT HERE!

QUICK! RIDE DOWNSTREAM—EVERYBODY! REBELS HAVE BEEN LOCATED DOWN THERE! HURRY!
RIGHT, SIR! LET'S GO, MEN!

WELL, THAT GOT ALL THOSE REDCOATS FAR DOWNSTREAM.
WHICH LEAVES THIS UPSTREAM PART CLEARED FOR OUR CROSSING. BUT HOW?

I NOTICED A SMALL ROWBOAT JUST UNDER THAT BANK, TIPI— GET IT. I'LL USE THIS ROPE THAT WAS LEFT HERE TO REPAIR THE BRIDGE...

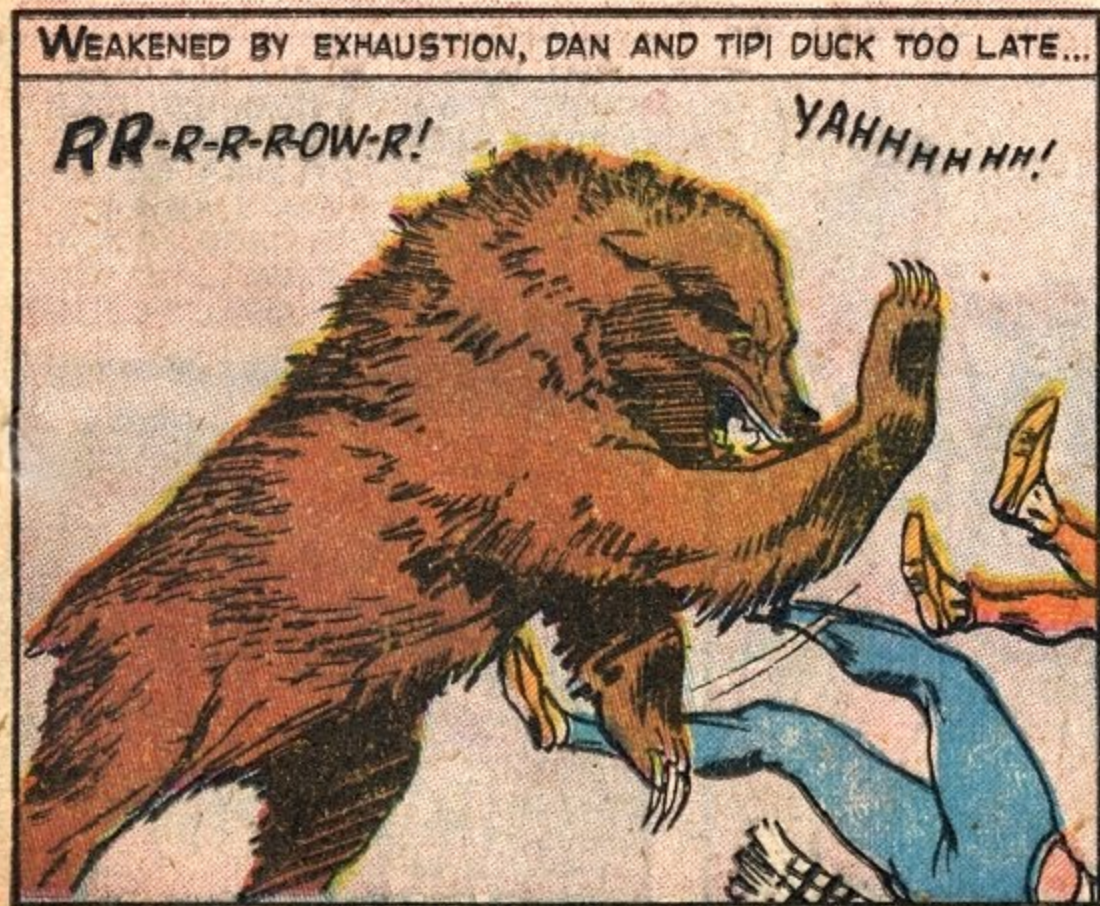
GOOD! THAT END SHOULD GET WELL TANGLED UP IN THOSE BRANCHES.
I GET IT— WE FERRY OURSELVES ACROSS!

HALP! HALP! HALP!
THIS SPY WILL ATTRACT THE REDCOATS, YET!

AND THE OTHER SIDE IS REACHED...
AND HE DID! THEY'RE SHOOTING AT US — RUN FOR IT!
YIIII! MY LEG!
SERVES YOU RIGHT, FOOL! YOUR FRIENDS, THE REDCOATS WILL TRY TO KILL YOU NOW, TOO!

I SEE NO NEED FOR YOU TO RISK YOUR LIFE WITH THAT SPY, DAN!
WE'RE UNDER ORDERS TO BRING HIM BACK ALIVE AND THAT WE SHALL! WE'LL BE UNDER COVER IN A MOMENT—THEN UP THAT MOUNTAIN...

AT THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN...
RRRRRRR!

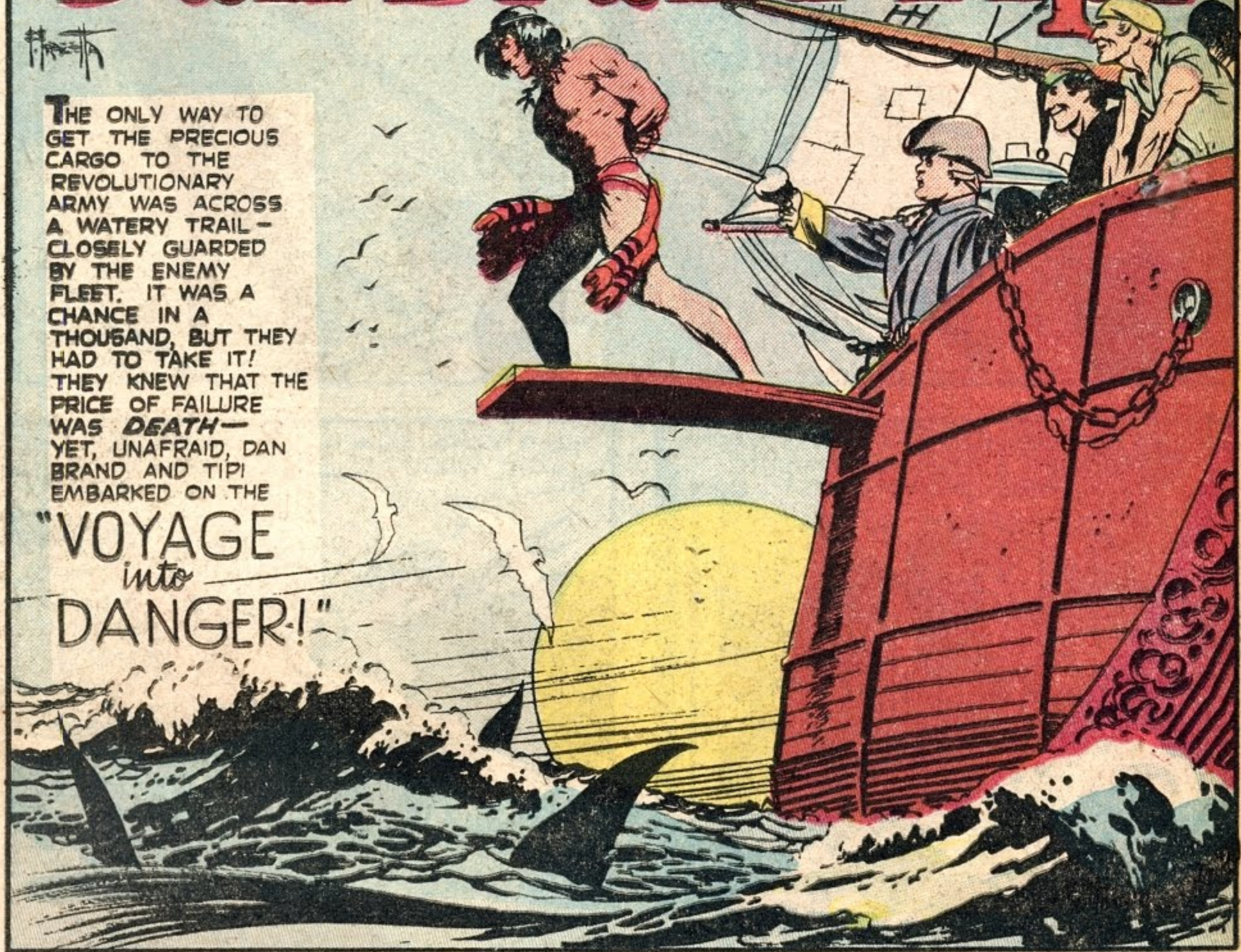
ANOTHER BEAR! IT MUST BE THE MATE TO THE ONE WE KILLED BEFORE! DUCK!
I'M SO EXHAUSTED!

WEAKENED BY EXHAUSTION, DAN AND TIPI DUCK TOO LATE...
RR-R-R-ROW-R!
YAHHHHHH!

TIPI'S BEEN KNOCKED UNCONSCIOUS! AND MY ARM— IT'S BROKEN— PINNED!... BUT THIS IS UP TO ME NOW... MY KNIFE...GOT TO GET IT OUT...

A SHORT TIM LATER... GENERAL WASHINGTON'S SENTRIES SEE A STRANGE SIGHT...

Dan Brand and Tipi

THE ONLY WAY TO GET THE PRECIOUS CARGO TO THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY WAS ACROSS A WATERY TRAIL— CLOSELY GUARDED BY THE ENEMY FLEET. IT WAS A CHANCE IN A THOUSAND, BUT THEY HAD TO TAKE IT! THEY KNEW THAT THE PRICE OF FAILURE WAS ***DEATH***— YET, UNAFRAID, DAN BRAND AND TIPI EMBARKED ON THE

"VOYAGE into DANGER!"

A TINY FISHING VILLAGE— SOMEWHERE SOUTH OF PHILADELPHIA...

...BUT I AM READY! ANYTHING FOR THE CAUSE! YOU CAN START LOADING MY SHIP AT MORNING, WITH HIGH TIDE!
I KNEW I COULD DEPEND ON YOU, CAPTAIN HAWKINS!
WHAT WAS THAT? A NOISE...!

THERE'S SOMEBODY SPYING OUTSIDE THIS WINDOW! GET HIM!

DON'T LET HIM GET AWAY!

THUNDER! A ROTTEN PLANK— MY FOOT— BLAST THE LUCK!

THEY GOT AWAY! THE BRITISH ARE SURE TO BE WAITING FOR US NOW!
THAT'LL GUARANTEE A DANGEROUS VOYAGE, DAN— BUT I'M NOT BACKING OUT! I'M STILL READY TO GO!

YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN, CAPTAIN HAWKINS— I GUESS YOU KNOW THAT THE PRICE OF FAILURE IS CERTAIN DEATH!
I'VE FACED DEATH BEFORE. MY SHIP WILL BE AT THIS DOCK IN THE MORNING, READY FOR LOADING!
2

IT'S ALMOST CERTAIN THAT WE'LL BE CAPTURED, DAN.
I'M AFRAID SO, TIPI. BUT— I HAVE AN IDEA...!

LISTEN, MEN! I WANT TO GATHER YOUR CARPENTERS— MAKE THIRTY MORE RIFLE CRATES AND MAKE THEM STRONG! I EXPECT ANOTHER SHIPMENT OF RIFLES TONIGHT!

AND NOW, WHILE THEY'RE MAKING THOSE CRATES— WE'LL GO OUT AND ROUND UP THOSE "RIFLES"!
I THINK I'M BEGINNING TO GET THE IDEA...!

NEXT MORNING, AS THE LOADING IS ALMOST COMPLETED...
BUT DAN, THERE ARE THIRTY MORE RIFLE CRATES THAN YOU TOLD ME ABOUT! THAT EXTRA WEIGHT WILL CUT OUR SPEED!
HAS TO BE DONE, CAPTAIN! SET SAIL!

MEN, LET'S PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THIS VOYAGE. GOD BLESS 'EM!

BUT— AFTER TWO HOURS AT SEA...
SHIP AHOY! BRITISH MAN-O'-WAR— TWO POINTS OFF THE STARBOARD BOW!

SHE'S COMING RIGHT FOR US WITH THE WIND HARD BEHIND HER. NO CHANCE OF MAKING A RUN FOR IT, DAN!
THE SPY HAS DONE HIS WORK WELL!

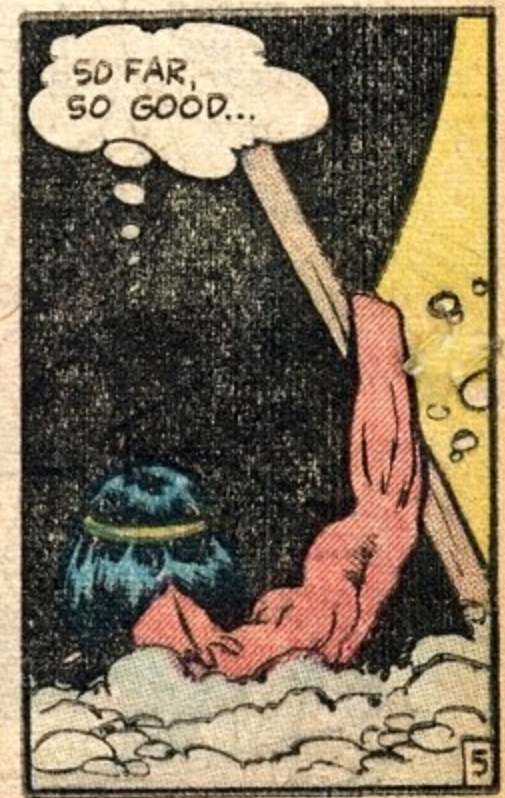
STEERSMEN, BRING HER ABOUT FOR A BROADSIDE! READY-FIRE!
KA-ROOOM!
BLAZES! THERE GOES OUR MAINMAST! WE'RE CRIPPLED!

WE'RE DONE FOR! I'M GOING TO GIVE THE ORDER TO SINK THE SHIP AND THE CARGO WITH IT! I'LL DIE BEFORE I LET THE RIFLES GET IN BRITISH HANDS! LISTEN TO ME, MEN...
WAIT, CAPTAIN— WAIT...!

I SAY NO! CAPTAIN— SURRENDER THIS SHIP!
WHAT? HAVE YOU GONE SOFT, DAN—ARE YOU AFRAID TO DIE FOR LIBERTY? I'LL NEVER SURRENDER!

THEN I WILL! ...AHOY THERE, WARSHIP—WE SURRENDER!
DAN BRAND, YOU'RE A COWARD AND A TRAITOR! IF THE BRITISH DON'T KILL YOU FIRST, I WILL!

LATER...
A FINE CATCH, I MUST SAY! RAW-THER! TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY CRATES OF RIFLES—AND, FOR A PRISONER, THE GREAT DAN BRAND HIMSELF! WHAT A BLOOMING TRIUMPH!
4

BUT - CLINGING TO THE RUDDER...

A LITTLE LATER...!
A LOVELY DAY FOR A SAIL, RAHLY!

GLUG!

DID YEZ SAY SOMETHING, LIEUTENANT?... BLIMEY, HE AIN'T THERE! I COULD'VE SWORN I HEARD SOMEBODY GRUNTIN' OR SOMETHIN'! OH, WELL...

WHAT THE—! WHY, IT'S— IT'S—!
QUIET, CAPTAIN! NOT A SOUND! IN JUST ONE MOMENT I SHALL PROVE TO YOU THAT I AM NO TRAITOR...

REMEMBER THOSE THIRTY EXTRA CASES CAPTAIN? THEY CONTAINED NOT RIFLES — BUT THIRTY SECRET WEAPONS!
INDIANS! BY THUNDER, I OUGHT TO BE LASHED TO THE MAST FOR NOT TRUSTING YOU!

AND NOW— TO FINISH THE JOB WE STARTED...!

BLAZES! IS IT POSSIBLE TO KILL THAT DAN BRAND?
INDIANS! HOW— WHERE— WHEN?— SOMETHING M-M-MUST HAVE G-G-G-GONE WRONG!

DROP THAT SWORD, LIEUTENANT—!

I HAVE GOOD USE FOR IT!
CAN YOU MAKE GOOD USE OF IT, REBEL?

I CAN! HOW'S THIS?
A NICE PARRY! BUT THAT WILL NOT SAVE YOUR NECK!

I HAVE PLANS FOR THAT THICK NECK OF YOURS, REBEL! OOF!
SO HAVE I— I MEAN TO KEEP IT —!

—BUT I HAVE PLANS FOR YOU!

NOW— THE SHIP IS OURS!
HOLY JUMPIN' SEAHORSES— HERE COMES THE WHOLE BRITISH FLEET—BEARING DOWN ON US! WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO NOW?

SAIL RIGHT INTO THE FLEET—STRAIGHT AT THEM! ... AND LISTEN TO ME, MEN...

ABOARD THE BRITISH FLAGSHIP...
HERE COMES THE CORONET, GENTLEMEN— RETURNING FROM HER MISSION. LET ME HAVE YOUR MEGAPHONE, COMMANDER!
AYE, AYE, SIR!

AHOY, HIS MAJESTY'S SHIP, CORONET! HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR MISSION?
AYE, AYE, SIR—THAT WE HAVE INDEED! WE HAVE CAPTURED ARMS AND PRISONERS!

VERY GOOD! PROCEED AT ONCE TO NEW YORK HARBOR AND TURN PRISONERS AND ARMS OVER TO HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES THERE!
RAW-THER!

IT'S A PITY WE COULDN'T GIVE THE ADMIRAL AT LEAST ONE BROADSIDE AT CLOSE RANGE...
BETTER THIS WAY, CAPTAIN. OUR CARGO COMES FIRST!

THE RIFLES WILL BE OF GREAT USE IN THE REVOLUTION, CAPTAIN—AND THIS SHIP'S CANNON, TOO! AS FOR YOU— YOU NOW HAVE A BRAND NEW SHIP ALL YOUR OWN!
THE END

Dan Brand and Tipi

MAN AND ANIMAL LIVED THE LAW OF THE WILD ALONG THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL... IT WAS "KILL OR BE KILLED" IN THE FOREST PRIMEVAL! BUT *DAN BRAND* AND *TIPI* CHANGED SOME OF THAT WHEN THEY CROSSED THE TRAIL OF

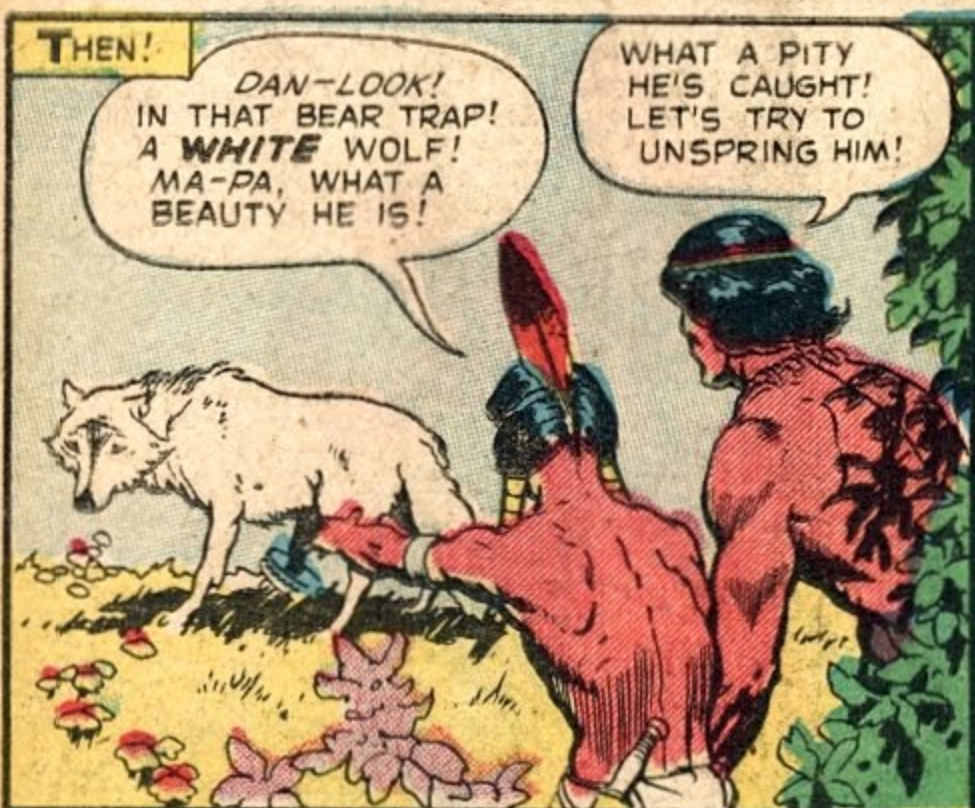
"THE WHITE WOLF"

BECAUSE OF HIS STRANGE COLOR AND HIS UNUSUAL SIZE, HE WAS MARKED FROM THE BEGINNING. CONSTANTLY, HE HAD TO DEFEND HIMSELF FROM THE OTHERS IN THE PACK...

...A LONE WHITE WOLF BATTLING A HOSTILE WORLD...

UNTIL THE DAY HE SNIFFED AT SOME MEAT BAIT...

...AND GOT CAUGHT!

THEN!
DAN—LOOK! IN THAT BEAR TRAP! A WHITE WOLF! MA-PA, WHAT A BEAUTY HE IS!
WHAT A PITY HE'S CAUGHT! LET'S TRY TO UNSPRING HIM!

GOT HIM! GO AHEAD, TIPI!
GOT IT! EASY THERE, BOY— IT WASN'T US WHO DID THIS TO YOU...

LOOK! HE'S STOPPED STRUGGLING —AND HE'S NOT RUNNING AWAY! HE UNDERSTANDS THAT WE HELPED HIM!
I GUESS THIS IS THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE ANYBODY TREATED HIM KINDLY— LET'S DRESS HIS LEG...

I'D GUESS THIS ONE IS AN OUTCAST, PROBABLY.
HE'S LICKING MY HAND! LET'S CALL HIM BA-LU—THAT'S INDIAN FOR "THE LONE ONE." LET'S KEEP HIM FOR A PET...!

NO TIME FOR THAT, TIPI. WE'RE LATE ALREADY. WE'RE CARRYING SECRET PLANS FROM GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GREENE...
2

...AND THESE PLANS MUST GET THROUGH. WE'LL STICK CLOSE TO THE TRAIL AND SAVE TIME...

A FEW MILES DOWN THE TRAIL...
ALL RIGHT, MEN- INTO THEM TREES. WE'LL SOON BE SEEIN' WHO'S THE BETTER SCOUT, DAN BRAND OR ME- SI BANNIS.
AIN'T NOBODY KIN BEAT YOU, SI BANNIS!

SURPRISE!

SI BANNIS! YOU RENEGADE AND TRAITOR! YOU'RE BEING PAID BY THE BRITISH FOR THIS, I'LL BET!
YE'RE GUESSIN' RIGHT, BRAND! AN' THEY'RE PAYIN' ME PLENTY!

WE GOT SPIES IN YER CAMP, BRAND- AN' WE KNOW ABOUT YER MISSION AN' THESE HERE BATTLE PLANS. WOTTA CATCH!

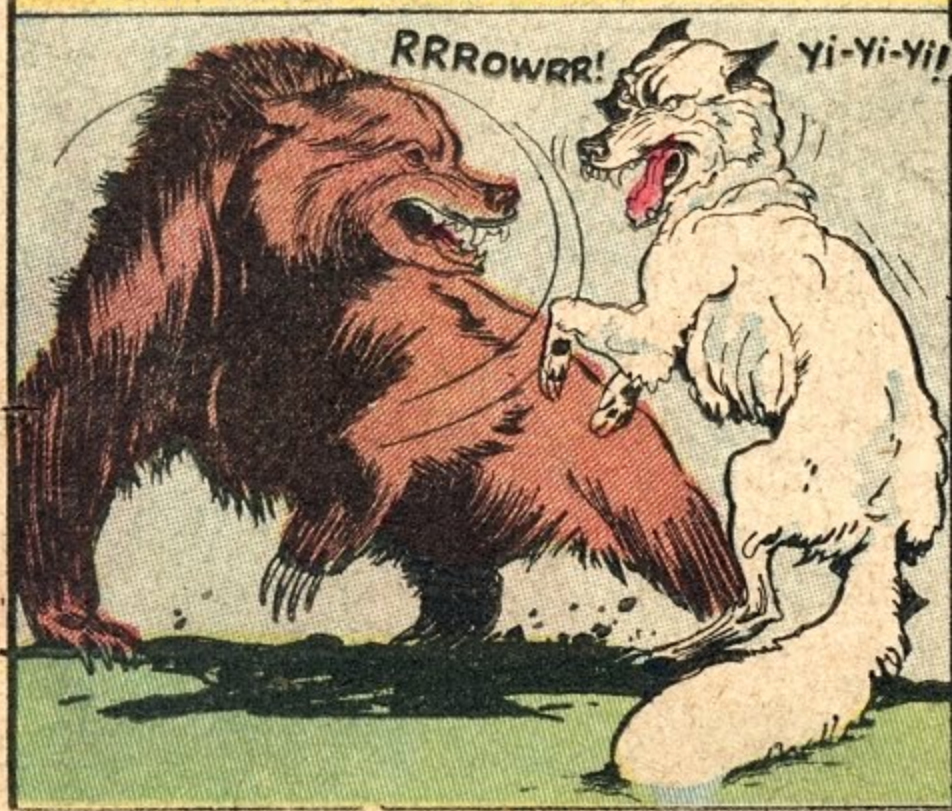
I GOT A SPECIAL KIND O' DEATH FIGGERED OUT FER TWO GREAT INDIAN SCOUTS LIKE YOU!... STRING 'EM UP, MEN! BOWZER, GO CATCH US A YOUNG DEER...

A YOUNG ROE IS CAUGHT AND STAKED NEARBY...
THET ROE'S YOWLIN' WILL ATTRACT THE BEARS, BRAND—AN' YOU'LL MAKE MIGHTY FINE BEAR FOOD! SO LONG!

IF ONLY I COULD GET MY FOOT ON SOMETHING, FOR LEVERAGE—I'D BE ABLE TO SWING UP ON THIS BRANCH AND...
THAT'S WHAT I'M TRYING TO DO TOO, DAN, BUT...

...TOO LATE! A SILVERTIP— A KILLER!

BUT SUDDENLY, OUT OF THE BUSHES FLASHES A WHITE STREAK!
DAN! LOOK!
IT'S BA-LU!

A SLEDGEHAMMER BLOW FROM THE BEAR'S PAW SENDS BA-LU FLYING...
RRROWRR!
YI-YI-YI!

BUT THE VALIANT WOLF COMES BACK FOR MORE—A BIT SMARTER NOW...!

THE BATTLE-WISE WOLF SLASHES THROUGH FOR A FIRM GRIP ON THE BEAR'S THROAT!
HOLD ON, BA-LU! HOLD ON, BOY!

HE DID IT! AND THE BEAR FELL RIGHT UNDER ME! NOW THAT I CAN GET MY FEET ON SOMETHING SOLID TO JUMP ON—I MAY BE ABLE TO HOIST MYSELF UP ON THIS BRANCH...
BRAVE WOLF!

ALLEY OOP!

TOUGH CHEWING, TIPI—BUT I'LL HAVE YOU DOWN, TOO, IN JUST A MINUTE! AND WE'LL FREE THAT YOUNG ROE, TOO...

NOW TO GET AFTER BANNIS! BUT HOW? HE'S TOO GOOD A WOODSMAN TO LEAVE A TRAIL THAT EVEN WE COULD FOLLOW!
HERE'S A TORN PIECE OF SHIRT I RIPPED OFF... MAYBE BA-LU CAN HELP US ON THIS...!

SNIFF-SNIFF!
THAT'S RIGHT, BA-LU—SMELL IT! BAD MAN! BAD MAN! GO GET HIM! GO GET HIM, BA-LU!

HE UNDERSTANDS! LET'S GO, TIPI!... GOOD BOY, BA-LU!
I AM THINKING THAT BANNIS WILL BE VERY SURPRISED!

WHUT THU—!?!
YOUR TURN TO BE SURPRISED, BANNIS!

GUNNNNG!
THIS IS GOING TO BE EASY—AND PLEASANT!
RRRRR!

AND A SHORT TIME LATER...
SO WE'LL JUST LEAVE THEM HERE IN THIS CAVE AND PICK THEM UP ON OUR WAY BACK. WE'RE LATE AND HAVE TO TRAVEL LIGHT.
ARE THE BATTLE PLANS ALL SAFE?

SAFE AS SHOOTING. LET'S GO!
RIGHT WITH YOU, DAN— AND SO IS BA-LU!

BA-LU!...TIPI, I DON'T THINK IT'S RIGHT TO TAKE BA-LU INTO CIVILIZATION AND THE WORLD OF MEN. HE BELONGS HERE, IN THE FOREST — FREE AND MAGNIFICENT!
YOU'RE RIGHT, DAN...THE FOREST IS OUR HOME, TOO—AND SOME DAY WHEN THE WARS ARE OVER, PERHAPS WE'LL MEET BA-LU AGAIN!

STAY HERE, BA-LU! STAY HERE! YOU CAN'T GO WITH US!
THAT'S RIGHT, BRAVE WOLF— STAY HERE! GOODBYE, BA-LU!

RROWRR—OOOOOOOO
GOODBYE, BA-LU— GOOD BYE....

White Indian

DEEP IN THE FOREST LURKED MANY DANGERS, MANY ENEMIES. USUALLY, THESE HELD LITTLE FEAR FOR DAN BRAND AND TIPI, WHO KNEW HOW TO HANDLE WILD ANIMALS OR SPIES. BUT SOMETHING NEW WAS FACED— TERRIBLE AND EVIL— WHEN THE TWO GREAT FIGHTERS OF THE FRONTIER HAD TO CLASH WITH **"THE UNDERWORLD OF THE WILDERNESS!"**

ON A NEARBY KNOLL...
THEY'RE GOING BACK INTO THE WOODS NOW WITH THEIR LOOT. WHAT A MURDEROUS LOT, DAN!
WE CAN'T TAKE THE TIME OR RISK TO MIX IN RIGHT NOW, TIPI. WE'RE ON AN IMPORTANT MISSION. AND THAT COMES FIRST...

BUT SOMEDAY, WHEN THE WAR IS WON AND THE COUNTRY REORGANIZED, A WAY MUST BE FOUND TO RID OUR FORESTS OF THESE LAWLESS BRIGANDS...

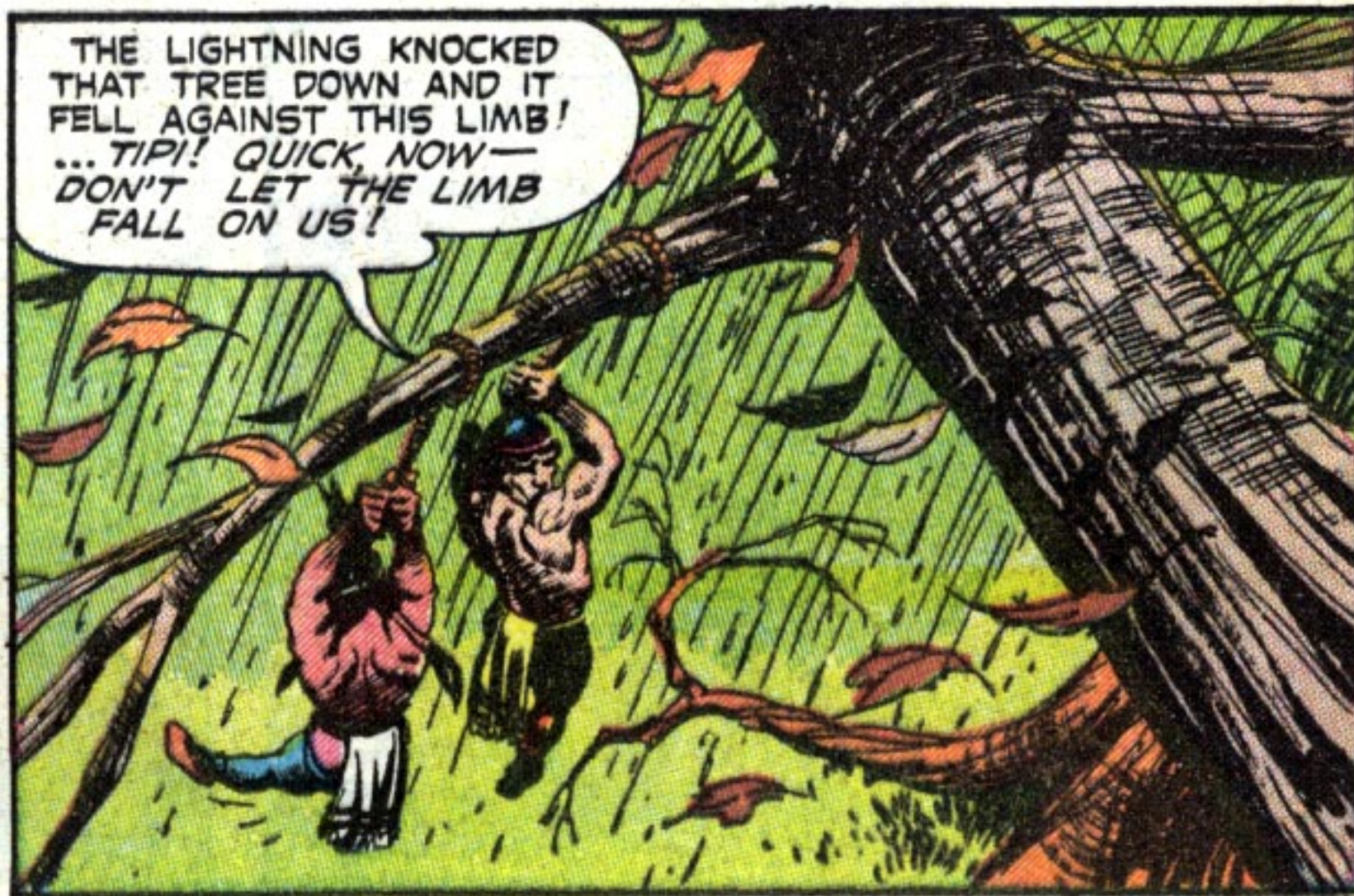
BUT FOR NOW—OUR JOB COMES FIRST. WE'VE GOT TO PICK UP CONTRIBUTIONS OF MONEY FROM THE FRONTIER SETTLEMENTS.
THERE'S THE FIRST TOWN NOW —WE'RE ON TIME!

LATER...
WE PAWNED ALL OUR VALUABLES, DAN. IN THAT CHEST IS ALL WE'VE GOT—BUT WE'RE ALL GLAD OF THE CHANCE TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE CONTINENTAL ARMY!
IN THE NAME OF OUR COUNTRY, I THANK YOU!

WE'RE DONATING THIS COACH, TOO. AND THESE BOYS HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO RIDE GUARD WITH YOU. SO YOU JUST CLIMB IN AND TAKE IT EASY.

WELL, DAN, IT ISN'T ALWAYS WE GET TO RIDE IN STYLE LIKE THIS—ESPECIALLY WITH A STORM COMING UP.
YES—EXCEPT—EXCEPT—I'VE GOT A FUNNY FEELING THAT SOMETHING'S WRONG...!

DON'T MOVE! THAT GOES FER THE INJUN BRAT, TOO!
GREETINGS FROM THE KING OF ENGLAND, DAN BRAND—YOU LOUSY REBEL!

THE REASON WE "VOLUNTEERED" FOR THIS ESCORT DUTY IS BECAUSE WE ARE SPIES FOR HIS MAJESTY! CLEVER—EH?
STOW THE CHATTER AND LET'S BE OFF! HURRY, NOW—STRING THESE REBELS UP BY THEIR THUMBS!
A FEW HOURS OF THAT IN THIS STORM AND THEY'LL ALL BE FINISHED. LET'S GO, MEN—TO THE BRITISH LINES!
EASY, TIPI—EASY, BROTHER...
CRACK
THE LIGHTNING KNOCKED THAT TREE DOWN AND IT FELL AGAINST THIS LIMB! ...TIPI! QUICK, NOW—DON'T LET THE LIMB FALL ON US!
NOW WE CAN CHEW THROUGH THESE ROPES.
I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EAT ROPE AND LIKE IT—BUT IT SURE TASTES GOOD NOW!
AND NOW—AFTER THOSE SPIES! THEY'RE MOUNTED AND WE'RE ON FOOT—DON'T SEE HOW WE'LL EVER CATCH THEM, BUT WE'VE GOT TO TRY!
LOOK, DAN—WHAT'S THAT UP AHEAD?
IT'S THE SPIES—MURDERED! EVERY ONE OF THEM!

MEANWHILE, BLACKLEG, LEADER OF THE FOREST UNDERWORLD, IS HAVING HIS TROUBLES...

THAT'S WOT I SAID, BLACKLEG—I DON'T *TRUST* YE! I SAY LET'S DIVVY UP THIS LOOT RIGHT HERE AN' NOW, SO EACH MAN GITS HIS FAIR SHARE!

BUT EVEN THE GREAT FRONTIER FIGHTERS FALL BEFORE THE WEIGHT OF NUMBERS...

MISERABLE BRIGAND!
HAW HAW! AIN'T NOBODY GETS THE DROP ON BLACKLEG! SET UP A FIRING SQUAD, BOYS, AND LET'S SEE HOW BRAVELY THESE INJUNS DIE!

WE DIE BRAVELY, THIEF! WE DIE WITH HONOR— FOR WE FIGHT IN A GREAT CAUSE! WE WILL BE REMEMBERED LONG AFTER YOUR FORGOTTEN BONES ROT IN THIS FOREST!

KNOW THEN, THAT YOUR STOLEN CHEST CONTAINS MONEY MEANT FOR THE ARMY OF GEORGE WASH-INGTON! YOU STEAL THE BLOOD OF OUR NATION AND THE LIVES OF OUR BRAVE SOLDIERS!

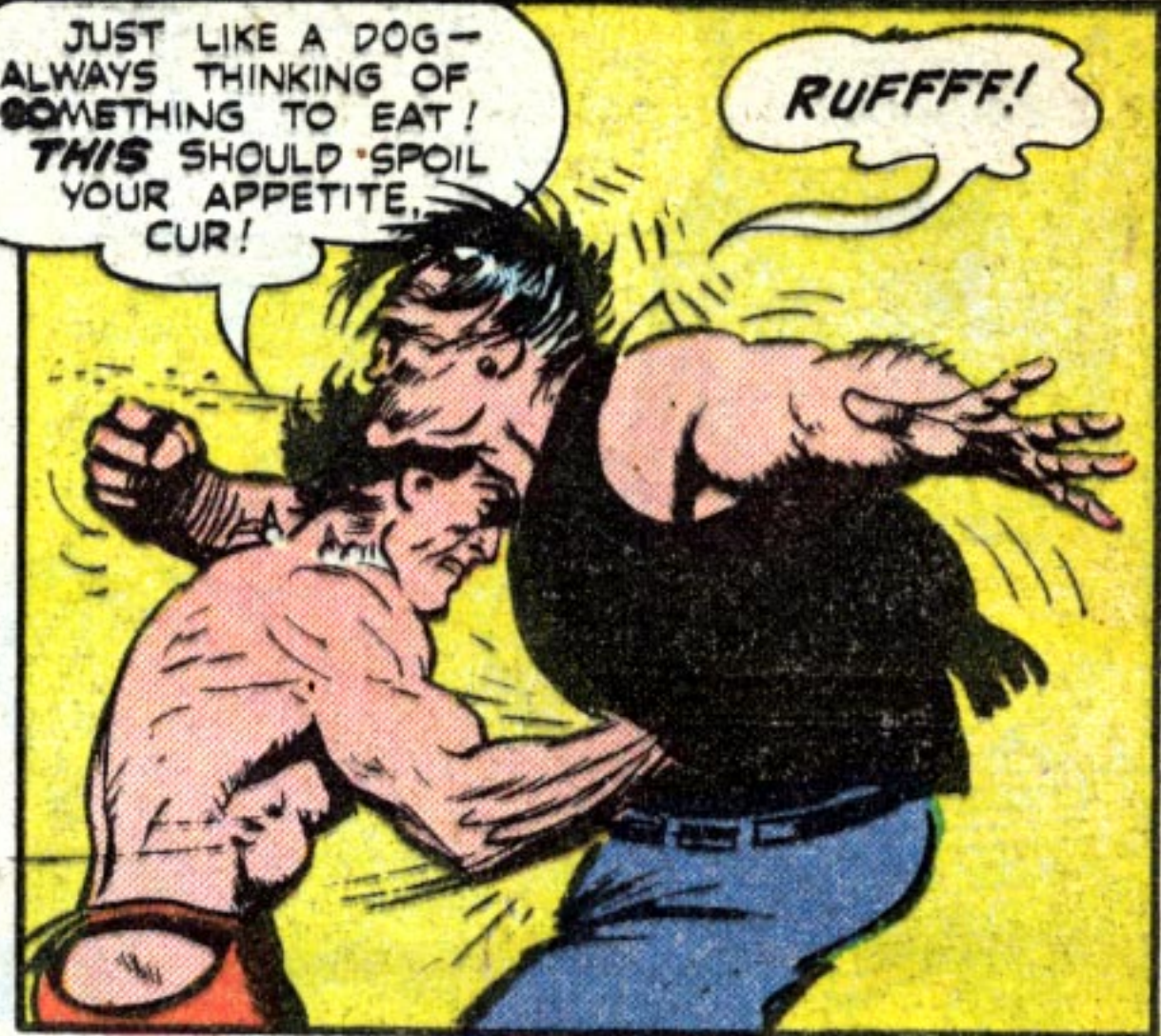
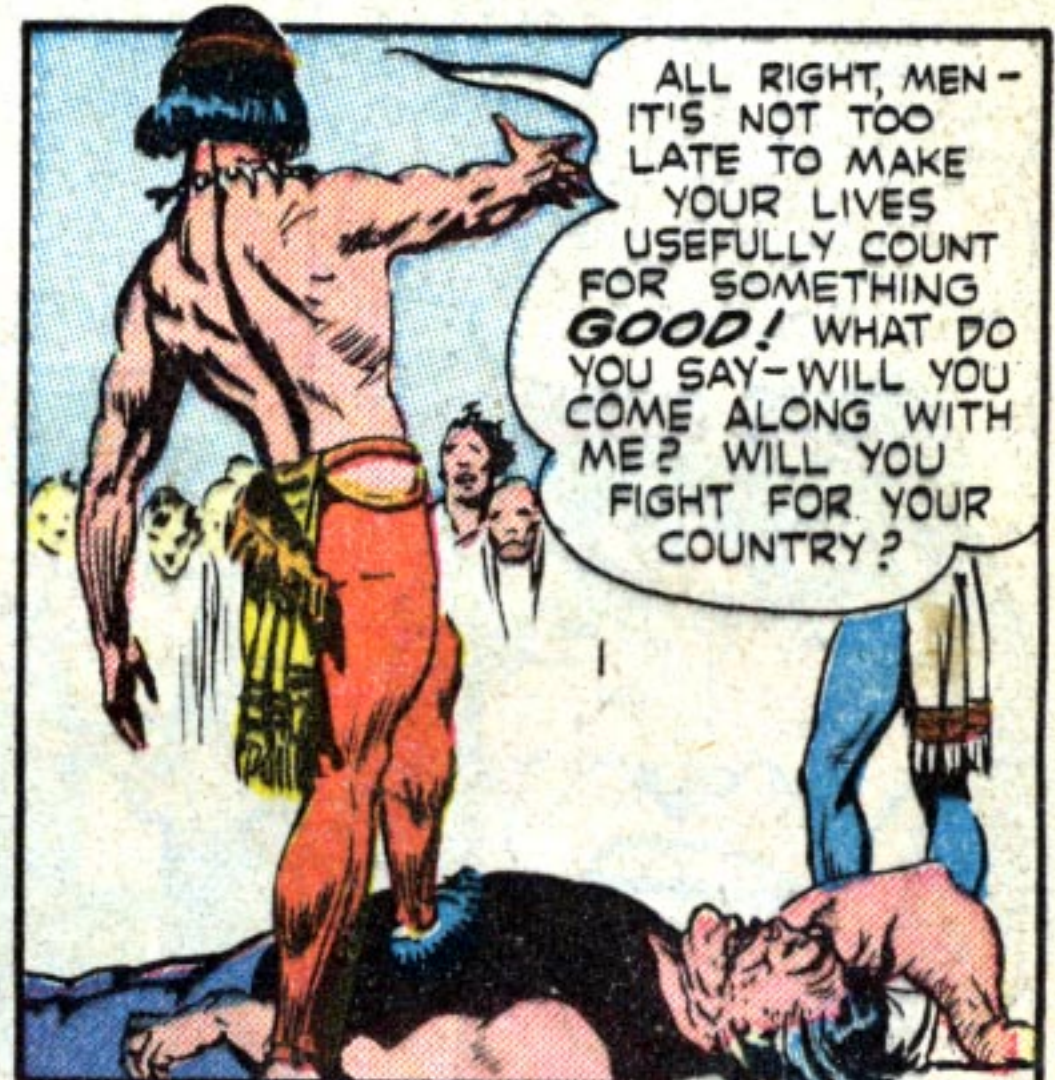
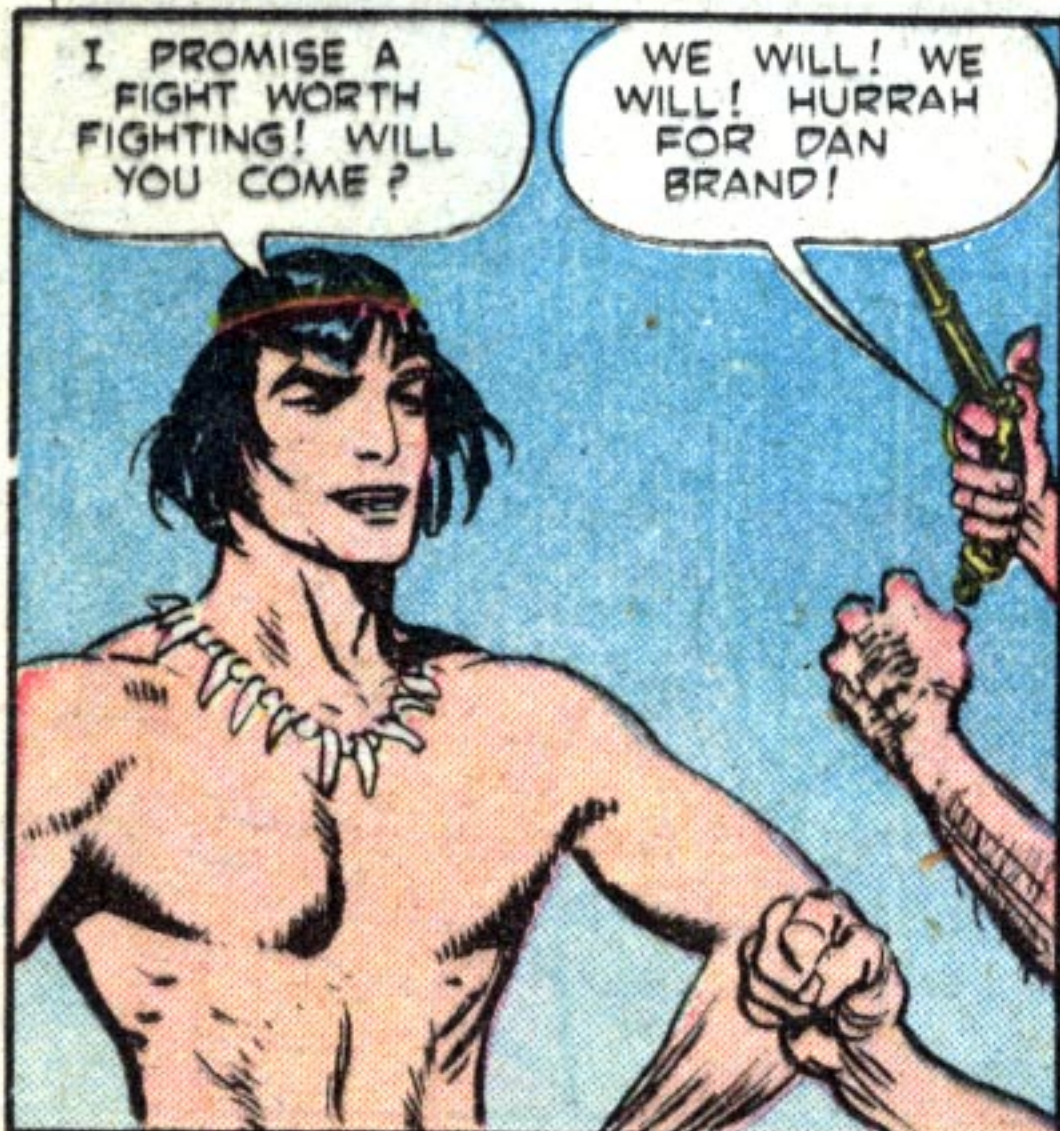
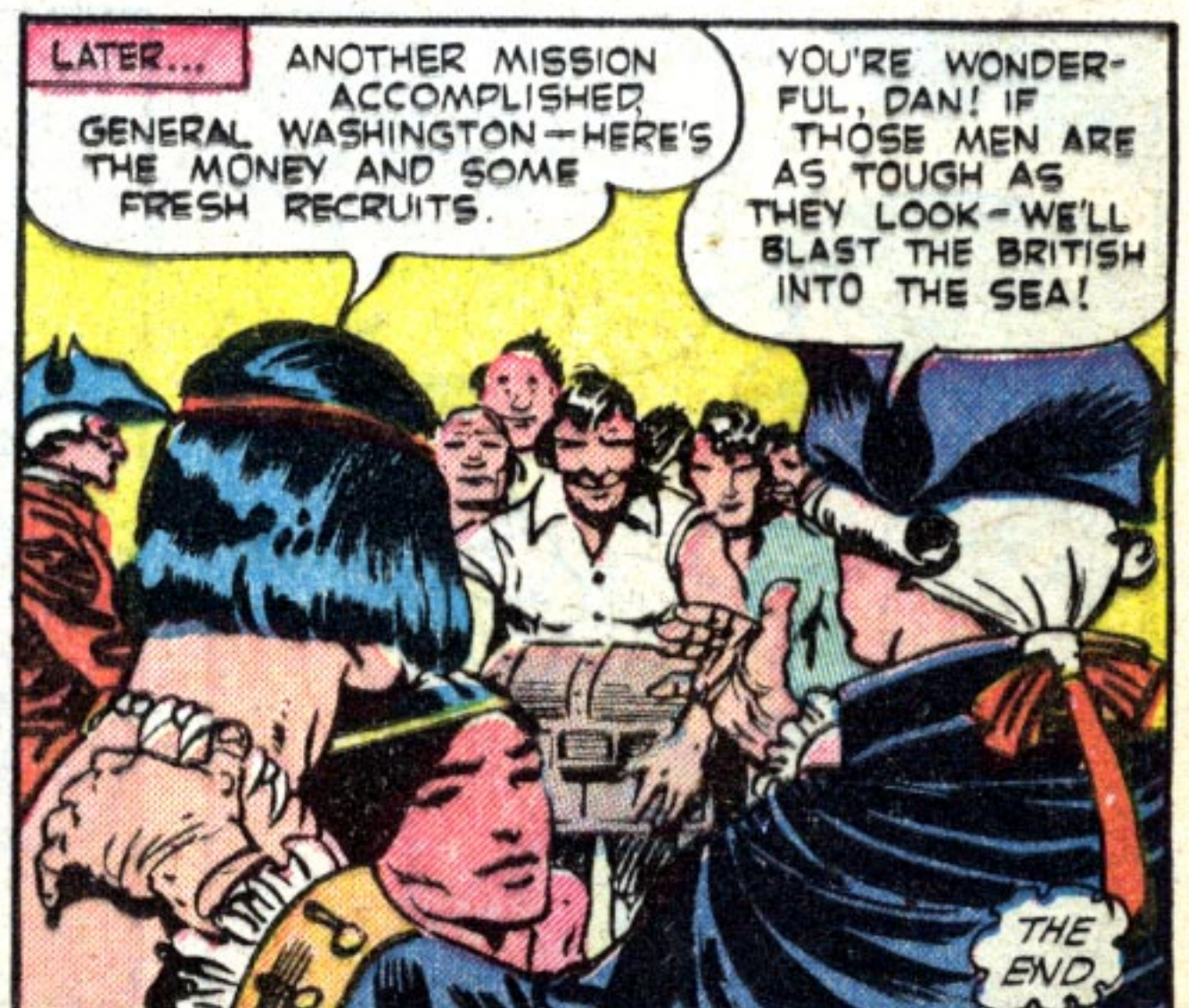
YES—THIS MONEY IS MEANT FOR OUR MEN WHO FIGHT AGAINST HUNGER AND OPPRESSION! AND WHILE THEY DIE FOR YOU—YOU STEAL AND MURDER! YOU ARE PARASITES AND YOU ARE TRAITORS!

THE MAN'S RIGHT! WE OUGHTA BE ASHAMED OF OUR-SELVES! I SAY CUT 'EM LOOSE AN' LET 'EM TAKE THEIR MONEY CHEST AWAY IN PEACE!

WHAT? REBEL OR BRITISHER IS ALL THE SAME T'ME! I SAY SHOOT! MONEY IS MONEY AND, BY GUM, YE'LL DO WHAT I SAY AS LONG AS I KIN LICK ANY MAN OF YE!

NOT ANYMORE, BLACKLEG! I'M THINKIN' HERE'S A MAN WHO KIN LICK YE! GO TO IT, DAN BRAND! I'M CUTTIN' YE LOOSE!

MUTINY, BY GUM! I'LL KILL YE, INDIA ZACH, RIGHT AFTER I MAKE DOG MEAT OUTA THIS INJUN!

JUST LIKE A DOG-ALWAYS THINKING OF SOMETHING TO EAT! THIS SHOULD SPOIL YOUR APPETITE, CUR!
RUFFFF!

NOW - TO SLEEP!
CRACK!
OOOOOH!

ALL RIGHT, MEN - IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE YOUR LIVES USEFULLY COUNT FOR SOMETHING GOOD! WHAT DO YOU SAY-WILL YOU COME ALONG WITH ME? WILL YOU FIGHT FOR YOUR COUNTRY?

I PROMISE A FIGHT WORTH FIGHTING! WILL YOU COME?
WE WILL! WE WILL! HURRAH FOR DAN BRAND!

LATER...
ANOTHER MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, GENERAL WASHINGTON-HERE'S THE MONEY AND SOME FRESH RECRUITS.
YOU'RE WONDERFUL, DAN! IF THOSE MEN ARE AS TOUGH AS THEY LOOK-WE'LL BLAST THE BRITISH INTO THE SEA!
THE END